

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY ARA/PAN:RBHOWARD:BK

APPROVED BY ARA/PAN:RWYROUGH

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 273125

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PN

SUBJECT: PANAMA CANAL TREATY NEGOTIATIONS--WASHINGTON
ACTIVITIES

FOR MINISTER BELL FROM WYROUGH

----- I.

THIS IS MESSAGE NO. 2 FOR THE NEGOTIATORS PERTAINING TO
THE NOVEMBER NEGOTIATING ROUND.

----- II.

1. CONGRESSIONAL VISIT. CONGRESSMEN LEE HAMILTON AND
DAVID OBEY TOGETHER WITH ONE OR TWO STAFF MEMBERS ARE
PLANNING TO VISIT PANAMA FROM NOVEMBER 21-24 TO LEARN
MORE ABOUT THE TREATY NEGOTIATIONS. AS YET, WE HAVE ONLY
A TENTATIVE SCHEDULE BUT IN GENERAL THE CONGRESSMEN WILL
BE MEETING WITH U.S. OFFICIALS AND SMALL GROUPS OF
PANAMANIAN. IF POSSIBLE, THEY HOPE TO VISIT GENERAL
TORRIJOS ON SUNDAY WHILE HE IS TRAVELLING IN THE INTERIOR
BUT THIS HAS NOT BEEN CONFIRMED. THEIR DEPARTURE EITHER
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SUNDAY AFTERNOON OR MONDAY MORNING IS IN PART CONTINGENT UPON WHETHER THEY ARE ABLE TO MEET WITH THE GENERAL. FROM STATE, MR. HOWARD WILL ACCOMPANY THE CONGRESSMEN AND WILL CONTINUE TO WORK ON THE SCHEDULE AND OTHER ARRANGEMENTS.

2. UNILATERAL ACTIONS. WE EXPECT LDX OF LETTER FROM VEYSEY AND DOLVIN TO AMBASSADOR BUNKER BY COB TODAY MAKING 5 ADDITIONAL ACTIONS FOR NEGOTIATORS USE AND IDENTIFYING 12 MORE THAT ARE UNDER CONSIDERATION.

3. U.S. ARMS SALES TO PANAMA. OUR CABLE IS STILL PENDING CLEARANCE WITH DEFENSE. NO PROBLEMS ARE ANTICIPATED.

4. AMBASSADOR'S SPEECH. WE ARE PROVIDING AMBASSADOR BUNKER WITH A DRAFT COPY OF HIS LOS ANGELES SPEECH. I WILL CONTINUE TO WORK ON IT, AND PASS SIGNIFICANT PROPOSED CHANGES TO HIM THROUGH DICK HOWARD.

5. ABC MINI-DOCUMENTARY. AMBASSADOR JOHN SCALI CALLED ME THIS AFTERNOON TO REQUEST INFORMATION ON THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR A "MINI-DOCUMENTARY" WHICH HE IS PLANNING TO DO THURSDAY FOR ABC TV TO BE TIMED IN CONJUNCTION WITH REAGAN'S ANTICIPATED ANNOUNCEMENT OF HIS CANDIDACY FOR THE GOP PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION. I FURNISHED HIM WITH THE STANDARD MATERIALS THAT WE PROVIDE TO CONGRESSIONAL AND OTHER QUERIES. WILL MONITOR DEVELOPMENTS AND KEEP YOU INFORMED.

6. BACKGROUND AND STATUS REPORT. WE HAVE CONTACTED PUBLIC AFFAIRS REGARDING FINAL REVIEW AND PRINTING OF THE NEW BACKGROUND AND STATUS REPORT. IF POSSIBLE, WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE REVISION READY BY AMBASSADOR BUNKER'S LOS ANGELES TRIP. INGERSOLL

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